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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

N.R.S., a minor, by and through her  
guardian ad litem A.S.,

Plaintiff,

v.

TWIN RIVERS UNIFIED SCHOOL  
DISTRICT,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:23-CV-01282-MCE-JDP

**ORDER GRANTING JOINT REQUEST TO  
SEAL ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

Judge: Hon. Morrison C. England

This matter arises under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”). The student, Plaintiff N.R.S., is currently fourteen years old and has been diagnosed with autism, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (“ADHD”), and multiple learning disorders. Plaintiff is seeking judicial review of portions of the final administrative decision by the California Office of Administrative Hearings (“OAH”) in the underlying due process hearing.

1           The administrative record is voluminous, containing 2,677 pages. Nearly all, if not all, of  
2 the documents in the administrative record are educational records which contain the minor  
3 child's name and other personally identifying information. These documents further contain  
4 highly sensitive and private information about the minor child's health, disabilities, intellectual  
5 functioning, and adaptive functioning. These documents include multiple psychological  
6 assessments, speech and language assessments, occupational therapy assessments, and  
7 behavioral assessments of the child.

8           The request to seal documents is controlled by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c).  
9 The Rule permits the Court to issue orders to "protect a party or person from annoyance,  
10 embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense, including . . . requiring that a trade  
11 secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information not be revealed or  
12 be revealed only in a specified way." The Court may seal the information from public view for  
13 good cause after balancing "the needs for discovery against the need for confidentiality." *Pintos*  
14 *v. Pac. Creditors Ass'n*, 605 F.3d 665, 678 (9th Cir. Cal. 2010) (quoting *Phillips ex rel. Estates*  
15 *of Byrd v. Gen. Motors Corp.*, 307 F.3d 1206, 1213 (9th Cir. 2002)).

16           In evaluating a request to seal, the Court considers the "public interest in understanding  
17 the judicial process and whether disclosure of the material could result in improper use of the  
18 material for scandalous or libelous purposes or infringement upon trade secrets." *Valley*  
19 *Broadcasting Co. v. United States District Court*, 798 F.2d 1289, 1294 (9th Cir. 1986).

20           The Parties have jointly requested the sealing of the administrative record. This Court  
21 finds that compelling reasons exist to seal the administrative record because it consists of private  
22 and sensitive educational and medical records of a child, which are protected from public  
23 disclosure under the IDEA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), and  
24 California Education Code § 49076. The record has this information listed throughout making  
25 redaction impractical.

1 Accordingly, the parties' joint motion to seal the administrative record is GRANTED.

2 IT IS SO ORDERED.

3 Dated: October 19, 2023

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6 MORRISON C. ENGLAND, JR.  
7 SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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